



**NEWS
RELEASE**

United States
Department of Agriculture

Forest Service
Salmon - Challis National Forest
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MIDDLE FORK COMPLEX UPDATE

Salmon, Idaho: The Middle Fork Complex, managed by the USDA Forest Service, Salmon-Challis National Forest, is comprised of the lightning caused **Waterfall, Stoddard, Roaring, Harbor, and Alpine** fires.

Dates of Detection and Current Size:	Waterfall: August 11 th	4006 acres
	Stoddard: August 12 th	884 acres
	Roaring: August 5 th	301 acres
	Harbor: August 16 th	8 acres
	Alpine: August 13 th	1/10 acre

Location: Frank Church – River of No Return Wilderness; North Fork Ranger District, about 40 air miles West of Salmon, ID.

Waterfall: Is burning in open timber and grass and is located east of the Middle Fork Salmon River, North of Waterfall Creek

Stoddard: Is burning in open timber and grass and is located west of the Middle Fork Salmon River, North of Cradle Creek

Roaring: Is burning in open timber spreading into subalpine fire and white bark pine and is located in the Big Horn Crags

Harbor: Is burning in open timber and is located adjacent to Harbor Lake

Alpine: Is burning in open timber and is located on the north side of Wilson Creek drainage.

Today, fire activity was minimal across the Middle Fork Complex. Temperatures have dropped and precipitation has occurred. The weekend weather forecast includes a continuation of lower temperatures and the possibility of rain.

The Teton Wildland Fire Module, has departed from the Middle Fork Complex Fires. They have completed their assignment and will be heading somewhere warm and dry for the evening.

The two firefighters, formerly staffing the Crags Campground, will be replaced by two new Forest Service Employees, to continue providing information to the public.

Speaking with three firefighters, previously staffing the Waterfall Fire, claimed fire activity was minimal. Light precipitation occurred on the fire yesterday and increased precipitation took place today. They noted, the northeast edge of the fire was adjacent to continuous fuel, and warm days and high winds, could result in new fire growth.

The Middle Fork Complex staff will continue to observe and monitor the resulting moisture in the weather forecast. The moisture could result in the possibility of reopening the trails. The decision will be made early next week.

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Trail Closures for the Salmon-Challis National Forest include:

- **South Fork Waterfall Trail (#6019)** beginning at the junction with **Waterfall Trail (#6045)** to its end.
- **Waterfall Trail (#6045)** Beginning at the junction with **Middle Fork River Trail (#6044)** to the confluence of the trail and the outlet of Terrace Lakes (where trail crosses headwaters of Waterfall Creek
- **Stoddard Lake Trail (#6140)** beginning at Stoddard Creek Point at the junction with **Stoddard Trail (#6169)** to its junction with **Forest Trail #6168**
- **Stoddard Trail (#6169)** beginning at the confluence of the Middle Fork of the Salmon River and the Salmon River, to its end at the junction with **Forest Trail #6168**
- **Mirror Lake Trail (#6022)** beginning at the junction with trail #6025 to Elkhorn Trail #025
- **Harbor Lake Trail (#6144)** from #6045 Waterfall Trail to #6021 Big Horn Crag Trail.
- **Crag Trail (#6021)** beginning at Big Clear Lake to Roaring Creek Lake.

Know before you go! Always check with your local Ranger Station prior to your trip to get the most up to date information on current fire activity, closures, fire danger, and fire restrictions for the area. Further information on the Middle Fork Complex can be found at: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4485/>

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